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E.O. 12065: N/A
TAGS: CU, RQ
SUBJ: PUERTO RICAN SOCIALIST PARTY REPRESENTATIVE BACKS AIRBASE ATTACK

1. FELIPE CIRINO, MEMBER OF CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF PUERTO RICAN SOCIALIST PARTY AND ITS RESIDENT REP IN CUBA, HELD PRESS CONFERENCE JANUARY 17 TO ENDORSE JAN 12 ATTACK ON MUNIZ AIRBASE BY EJERCITO POPULAR BORICUA (EPB). PRESS CONFERENCE WAS REPORTED BY JUVENTUD REBELDE AND TRIBUNA, BUT INTERESTINGLY NOT BY OFFICIAL CCP GRANMA.

2. EPB ACTION, ACCORDING TO CIRINO, WAS "OBVIOUSLY WELL PLANNED AND EXTREMELY WELL EXECUTED", THEREBY DEMONSTRATING THAT EPB HAD OVERCOME "THE MEDIOCRITY IN THIS TYPE OF ARMED ACTIVITY" FOR WHICH SOCIALIST PARTY HAS LONG CRITICIZED IT. THIS ACTION IS "AN ACT OF WAR, SINCE PUERTO RICAN PEOPLE ARE AT WAR AGAINST THE IMPERIALIST INTERVENTOR. ----THE PUERTO RICAN SOCIALIST PARTY SUPPORTS THIS ACT SINCE IT AGREED WITH OUR OWN STRATEGY FOR NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE". CIRINO WENT ON TO ARGUE THAT ATTACK WAS JUSTIFIED UNDER PROVISIONS OF UN DECOLONIALIZATION COMMITTEE

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RESOLUTION, TO CALL FOR "CONSENSUS" AMONG ALL PRO-INDEPENDENCE FORCES, AND TO CLAIM THAT AIRBASE ATTACK IS AN "ELOQUENT EXAMPLE OF THE COMBATIVE POSSIBILITIES" OPEN TO PUERTO RICAN PEOPLE IN STRUGGLE FOR THEIR INDEPENDENCE.

SMITH
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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
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